GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:448
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2009
URBAN CIVIC BODIES
Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating of financial empowerment of urban civic bodies in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a)&(b): The Ministry of Urban Development in pursuance of 74th Constitutional Amendment Act has initiated steps to enhance the level of financial empowerment of urban civic bodies. These include implementation of urban reforms under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission including those related to levy of reasonable user charges in respect of water supply and sanitation, enhanced coverage and efficiency of property tax collection, institutionalization of 74th Constitutional Amendment Act and encouraging public private partnerships. Further, the Central Finance Commission has also been requested for enhancement of level of funding of the urban local bodies. The role of State Government in financial empowerment of urban civic bodies is critical as it is for the State Government to decide the nature of taxes to be levied and appropriated by the local bodies.